

\$12,000 FOR A HACKNEY.

MATCHLESS OF LONDESBORO PURCHASED AT W. L. CLARK.

The Duke of Marlborough's Bidder for the National Statute—Successful Sale of Horses from Dr. W. Seward Webb's Shelsburne Farm—A Big Crowd at the Exchange.

One of the most important public sales of hackney horses that has ever been held in this country took place yesterday at the American Horse Exchange, Dr. W. Seward Webb closing out about seventy stallions, brood mares, and young things from his Shelsburne Farm stud, in Vermont. The noted hackney stallion Matchless of Lonesboro was included in the sale, and this fact gave rise to the impression among horsemen that Dr. Webb was going to abandon the breeding of hackneys in his country place of 4,000 acres, which skirts the eastern shore of Lake Champlain.

Matchless has long been recognized as the foremost hackney sire in America, having won the challenges cup at the National Horse Show to the exclusion of all other prizewinners at the leading horse shows in England and the United States. The announcement that he was to pass under the hammer led nearly everybody to believe that the Shelsburne Farm stud would be entirely dispersed, but such is not the case. The owner of the famous old horse has reserved a number of sons of Matchless, some of which he believes to be the equals of their sire, and with these he will continue his breeding venture in Vermont.

Matchless of Lonesboro is quite as well known in England as in the United States, and it was known before the sale took place that several English breeders would like to secure the stallion. Dr. Ryer, who represented the Duke of Marlborough, and George B. Hulme, acting for another English horseman, were among the bidders when the gallant old chestnut came out into the sale ring.

An offer of \$2,000 started the bidding, and the price jumped rapidly upward until \$12,000 was reached. The offer came from W. L. Clark, of the Cleveland Stock Farm on Staten Island, and as the foreign buyer failed to raise it, Clark secured the rights of sale. This is the highest price that has been paid for a hackney stallion at auction since 1894, when John A. Logan's Bonfire was sold for something like \$14,000 to an English buyer. Matchless of Lonesboro is 13 years of age. He is a remarkably well preserved horse for his years, and he made fine appearance yesterday when led out to be sold.

The floor and the galleries of the Horse Exchange were crowded during afternoon and evening. Some of those present were the Hon. William C. Whitney and Mrs. Whitney, V. K. Campbell, Dr. Webb and Mrs. Webb, T. M. Fifer, and Mr. and Mrs. John W. Jackson, proprietor of the Head Meads Stud in Tennessee; Henry Fairfax of Virginia, who imported the famous stallion, and sold him to Dr. Webb for \$10,000; Captain Hayes, Reginald Hayes, Marion Story, Col. Willard Jay, James C. Kerfoot, and Col. Delaney; Louis W. Wormser, Le Grand B. Cannon, W. D. Dr. Peyster, Rensselaer Weston, J. Y. Van Allen, F. G. Smith, and J. C. Hayes; Frank D. Hodges, J. W. Ogden, R. P. Lounsbury, Charles F. Bates, Frederick Bronson, H. McKeon, Twombly, L. E. Parker, John Fairfax, George F. Smith, and Max E. Evans.

No remarkable prices were realized for any of the offerings except Matchless of Lonesboro. After the sale of the stallions and ponies under the hammer, a general march of the horses were offered. Following is a partial list of the horses sold:

CARSON COUNTS ON THE FIGHT.
Federal Interference Unlikely—Bill to Limit Admission Rates.

CARSON, N. Feb. 3.—There appears to be absolutely no foundation whatever for the report telegraphed from this city yesterday to the effect that the Federal authorities would be asked to stop the proposed Corbett-Pitzmuns' gow contest. All Federal officers having jurisdiction in this State were communicated with on the subject last night, and each denied having received any instructions regarding the matter. United States Circuit Judge McKenna of San Francisco in an interview last evening stated that he knew of no law that would warrant Federal interference.

A bill has just been introduced in the Senate providing that the admission to the big fight be limited to \$1. The bill will probably be introduced if it can be shown that an undesirable class of people on both sides, and the moneyed sports, who are wanted most as visitors to the State, might stay away.

The Ormby House, the largest hotel in Carson, has issued an order from London for ten rooms. It is now necessary for the Carson City council to select as the place for the fight, but the exact location of the building will not be known until Stuart reaches here, which will be this week.

All the vacant buildings in the city have been leased, and every effort will be made toward providing accommodations for the great crowd.

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Hawthorne Shakes, Dan DeWolfe, by C. W. Clark, of the York Opera House, New York, has been closed for two weeks, and the Matchless of Lonesboro, a 13-year-old stallion, given by Dr. Webb to Senator Carson, will be shown at the Clark, Douglas Hills, Staten Island.

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